erated only with women of doubtful morals, now became frequent and respectable. Women were given more liberty. Sometimes they participated in politics and were employed in government posts. In the radical movement of 1926-1927 even Amazon corps were heard of.

Youth paid less deference to age. More and more young people insisted upon making their choice of their life mates without the interference or even the advice of parents.

Former distinctions between classes were also passing. Members of occupations once despised, such as that of the soldier, were coming into power.

Here and there, too, notably in the cities, the large family was breaking up. Instead of members of several generations living in patriarchal groups in one compound, as had often been the custom, in the case of such new groups as laborers in the factories and graduates of secondary and high schools it was not unusual for each married couple to have its individual home. In some circles concubinage was regarded with less tolerance than formerly.

What the effect of all these changes would be no one could foresee. Especially were the alterations in marriage customs and family life fraught with unpredictable consequences. More than among most peoples, the family had formed the basic social unit, an extremely important agency for education and social control. The weakening of its traditional ties could not fail of significant results.

Never before in the recorded history of China had the gap in customs and outlook between generations been so wide and deep. In breaking with the constraints of the past, many of the youth came to moral and physical shipwreck, and others were seriously

injured. On the other hand, the old customs were not without deleterious consequences and something could be said in praise of the new freedom.

These changes, like so many of the others, did not come simultaneously throughout the length and breadth of the nation, nor were they to be found everywhere in equal degree. They were more in evidence in the cities, particularly along the coast and where the largest numbers of foreigners were found. The westward movement of population to "free" China in the 1930's and